

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, above line 1, please insert the following paragraphs:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 103 29 123.7 filed on June 27, 2003. Applicants also claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §365 of PCT/DE2004/000900 filed on April 29, 2004. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

On page 1, please amend the paragraph in lines 1 to 2 to read as follows:

This invention relates to a clutch ~~according the preamble of Patent Claim 1~~ and a method for operating such a clutch.

On page 1, between the first and second full paragraphs, please insert the following heading:

2. Description of Related Art

On page 1, between lines 27 and 28, please insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 2, after line 5, please insert the following paragraphs:

This problem is solved with a generic disk clutch in which the adjusting force is regulated according to the operating states prevailing at the moment, namely at a predetermined level, by an embodiment according to the ~~characterizing features of Patent Claim 1.~~ invention.

According to this invention, this predetermined value is monitored by measured values from a sensor provided on the spring mechanism and/or at least on one of its thrust bearings. The present invention differs from the generic device according to German Patent DE 198 22 193 A1 in particular in that the pressure value is not monitored by a pressure value measurement inside the hydraulic pressure source.

This difference also exists in comparison with the other clutches cited above as belonging to the state of the art, because those clutches each have pressure sensors on the spring mechanisms by means of which the spring mechanisms can be readjusted according to the measured pressure changes when there is wear on the clutch. The previously known clutches do not have regulation of

the contact pressure of the pressure valve of the clutch according to the measured pressure values of the pressure sensor provided on the spring mechanism.

Page 2, lines 6 and 7, change this paragraph to read:

Advantageous and expedient embodiments of this device ~~according to Claim 1~~ are also the object of the ~~dependent Claims 2 through 4.~~ invention.

On page 2, please amend the paragraph in lines 8 to 9 to read as follows:

An advantageous method of operating an inventive clutch is also the object of ~~Claim 5.~~ the invention.

On page 3, please amend the paragraph in lines 19 to 21 to read as follows:

Figure 1 a half section through a schematic diagram of a multi-task clutch of a manual transmission. ~~according to German Patent DE 198 22 193 A1.~~

On page 3, please amend the paragraph in lines 25 to 29 to read as follows:

A ~~pressure valve~~ piston is mounted on the second body 2 in a rotationally fixed but axially displaceable manner. With this

~~pressure valve~~ piston 5, the disks of the two bodies, 1, 2 can be pressed together in a non-positive manner for engaging the clutch.

On page 4, please amend the paragraph in lines 1 to 8 to read as follows:

To disengage the clutch, a plate spring serves as the spring mechanism 3 by means of which the ~~pressure valve~~ piston 5 is shifted to achieve an opened state of the clutch. A hydraulic pressure (not depicted in the drawing) acts on the ~~pressure valve~~ piston 5 to engage the clutch, namely acting against the force of the plate spring 3. The ~~pressure valve~~ piston 5 determines the duration of the opening of the clutch under the force of the plate spring 3.

On page 4, please amend the paragraph in lines 9 to 20 to read as follows:

The plate spring 3 is provided with a DLC layer as the sensor 4. The measured values obtained by the sensor 4, similar to the current spring force of the plate spring 3, are preferably sent telemetrically to an electronic analyzer unit, from which the measured values can be utilized to control and/or regulate the adjusting force acting on the clutch. The deceleration fore of the hydraulic pressure applied to the ~~pressure valve~~ piston 5

counteracting the opening of the clutch should be part of the
aforementioned actuating force and/or adjusting force acting on
the clutch in the sense of the description of the present
invention.